No Objection to Declassification in Part 2012/04/02 : LOC-HAK-5-1-43-7

~~SECRET~~/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

April 13, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM: Al Haig /S/

SUBJECT: Exploitation of "Tensions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe -- Challenge and Opportunity"

At Tab B is the President's request that we ask Director Helms to provide a recommendation in 30 days for action programs to exploit tensions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

At Tab A is a memorandum to Director Helms requesting a report on plans to exploit tensions.

Attachments

AMH:JTH:feg:4/13/70

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MORI/CDF
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NSS review completed.

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A

SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

APR 14 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: **Exploitation of "Tensions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe -- Challenge and Opportunity"**

The President has read with great interest your excellent paper on "Tensions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe -- Challenge and Opportunity." He is particularly interested in the action program being planned for future operations. Please prepare a report for the President on your plans, to include:

- **Specific plans for programs mentioned in the paper which you consider are feasible.**
- **Additional steps which you recommend we take to exploit tensions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.**

The report should be delivered by close of business on May 11, 1970.

(Signed) HENRY A. KISSINGER

Henry A. Kissinger

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HAK:AMH:JTH:feg:4/13/70

No Objection to Declassification in Part 2012/04/02 : LOC-HAK-5-1-43-7

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/SENSITIVE

April 9, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: Exploitation of Tensions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

Attached is an excellent CIA paper describing covert action programs being undertaken to exploit tensions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and identifying activities which may be emphasized in the future. In assessing Soviet vulnerabilities the report notes that:

-- Although the internal dissident is not likely to significantly influence Soviet society in the short term, existing trends toward more active dissidence could be affected by external developments. The discrediting of the regime by a serious economic crisis or another Czech-type crisis might promote radical changes in the internal political climate.

-- Suppression of the growing intellectual dissent by Soviet authorities has disillusioned many foreign Communists and Soviet sympathizers.

-- Among the non-Russian minorities in the Soviet Union dissent is vocal and widespread.

-- There is also increasing criticism of the Soviet economy.

-- In Eastern Europe where the tensions are greater and the Western orientation much stronger the Soviets will have to rely on force to maintain hegemony.

There are numerous indications of the effectiveness of the program CIA conducts to capitalize on Soviet vulnerabilities:

-- Radio Free Europe, which broadcasts to an Eastern European audience of over 30 million that swells dramatically during crises, is frequently denounced by Communist leaders. Czech Party Secretary Husak, for example, has blamed RFE for his party's inability to win over the Czech population.

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adio Liberty which broadcasts to the Soviet Union has had a significant role in increasing manifestations of dissent and opposition among the Soviet intelligensia. Defectors have often commented on the significant impact of the broadcast of documents written by protesters.

-- The $150 million spent anually by the Russians for jamming operations which are only marginally successful is indicative of the value of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty which cost less than $35 million to operate.

-- Publication of smuggled manuscripts and magazines geared to the Eastern European audience and distribution of books not available in Communist countries have also made an impact. 25X1

25X1

[redacted]

Attachment

K- I believe we need a more aggressive program in this area. ask Helms to give me recommendations in 30 days of what we can do (including of course some of the programs in this 25X1

K SECRET/SENSITIVE

(2) give me recommendation on how we can increase 25X1

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